

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING



Commission Meeting
Tuesday, September 20, 2011
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Department of Economic Security
Director's Office Conference Room
1717 West Jefferson Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present:

Michael Traylor, Co-Chair, Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH,); Melanie Starns, (Alternate), Department of Economic Security (DES); Charles Ryan, Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC); Cassandra Larsen, Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families (GCYF); Sean Price (Alternate), Arizona Department of Veteran Services (ADVS); Darlene Newsom, United Methodist Outreach Ministries (UMOM); Victor Hudenko, Catholic Charities Community Services, Inc.; David Sherman, The Salvation Army, White Mountain Outpost; Victoria Navarra, (Alternate), Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS); Robert Halliday, Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS)); Ted Williams, Arizona Behavioral Health Corporation (ABC); Jenifer Thornton, City of Sierra Vista and Brian Spicker, Valley of the Sun United Way (VSUW).

Commissioners Absent:

Clarence H. Carter, Co-Chair, Department of Economic Security (DES); Will Humble, Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS), Colonel Joey Strickland, Arizona Department of Veteran's Services (ADVS); Frank Migali, Arizona Department of Education (ADE) and Terri Leveton, Phoenix Rescue Mission.

Staff Present:

Karia Basta, Arizona Department of Housing, (ADOH); Travis Schulte, Arizona Department of Veteran Services (ADVS); Mary Murphy (Alternate) Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families (GCYF); Karen Hellman, Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC); Brenda Robbins Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS), Lynn Larson, Donna Bleyle and Patricia Talcott (DES).

Welcome and Introductions

Melanie Starns filling in for Co-Chair Carter called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Ms. Starns welcomed everyone to the meeting. Co-Chair Traylor joined the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes

Co-Chair Traylor called for approval of the Tuesday, July 19, 2011 meeting minutes, Commissioner Jenifer Thornton asked for correction to her attendance which stated she was not in attendance when indeed she attended the July 19, 2011 meeting. Co-Chair Traylor asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes with corrections. Commissioner Williams moved to approve the amended meeting minutes; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Thornton. The motion passed with the changes and approved by commissioners in attendance.

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United States Interagency Council on Homelessness *Call to Action*

Donna Bleyle shared information with commissioners on the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) document *A Call to Action for States and Communities*. Advanced copies will soon be distributed nationwide. Paul Carlson from USICH was in Arizona August 22-29, 2011, meeting with City of Tempe and City of Phoenix officials as well as the Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH), Valley of the Sun United Way (VSUW), Governor's Advisors and Department Heads and Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS) to share this important document and request that Arizona consider alignment with the Federal Plan to end Homelessness, Opening Doors. Mr. Carlson also visited Tucson and met with city and county officials, service providers and the Tucson Mayor encouraging them to join in aligning with the USICH plan. The plan focuses on specific goals to end homelessness with timeframes and moves the focus from management of a homeless system to ending and preventing homelessness. ACHH commissioners were asked for a motion to align with the plan. A motion was placed on hold until the Initiative 6 /Arizona Business plan to end Homelessness presentation was made later in the meeting.

INITIATIVE 6 / Arizona plan to end Homelessness Presentation – Session 2

Donna Bleyle presented Session Two on Initiative 6 which included *definitions for ending homelessness and chronic homelessness, centralized intake, and navigation/navigators*, a national best practice developed here in Arizona. Presented was a revised plan with Goals, Objectives and Strategies representing recommendations of the ACHH Work Groups, current plans of the three Continuums of Care and input from meetings with Service Providers.

Also presented were outlined specific *action steps* and a recommendation for the creation of *standing committees* to oversee the action items and plan execution. The proposed committees are: 1) Data Management Committee; 2) Housing Committee; 3) Homeless Services Committee; and 4) Studies and Surveys Committees. Specific action items for each committee were discussed and a call was made for Commissioners to volunteer for the positions of committee chairs/co-chairs as well as agreeing to be members on each of the committees. The following Commissioners volunteered for committees: Data Management Committee, Commissioner Ted Williams as Chair with Commissioner Brian Spicker as a member; Housing Committee, Commissioner Michael Traylor as Chair, (with Karia Basta) and Commissioner Victoria Navarra as members; Homeless Services Committee, Commissioner Darlene Newsom as Chair with commission members Commissioner Dave Sherman and Commissioner Charles Ryan (with Karen Hellman as his alternate), and the Studies and Survey's Committee, Commissioner Brian Spicker as Chair, and Commissioner Vic Hudenko and Commissioner Jennifer Thornton as members.

All Committee Chairs will be contacted to discuss additional members and the recommended task list for each committee. Committee Chairs will report the committee's progress at the next ACHH Meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2011.

Following acceptance of the Plan to End Homelessness presentation and appointment of Committee Chairs, a motion was made and passed to align Arizona's Plan to End Homelessness with the USICH Opening Doors Plan.

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Announcements

Commissioner Hudenko shared a flyer announcing the 18th Annual Arizona Statewide Conference on Homelessness scheduled for October 17-18, 2011 at the Black Canyon Conference Center, of which he stated it would be the first conference he would miss as he would be out of the state for three month. He is retiring but stated he will continue to serve on the ACHH. Commissioner Hudenko also stated there would be a Catholic Charities Project in the Southwest valley that would be opening in 2013.

Commissioner Newsom stated Legacy Crossing is 100 percent occupied (80 units) and 60 more would be added by the end of the year. UMOM Commissioner Newsom stated they just received word they have been awarded a grant from Violence Against Women which will focus on substance abuse, peer counseling and subsidies for permanent housing.

Commissioner Thornton reported the sewer project at Sulger, of which two miles are inside the city of Sierra Vista and two miles are outside the city is a project of trailer homes, under 7,000 square feet lots, which are substandard with no sewers. The project will receive funding for sewers from the CSBG list which would prevent condemnation of the housing project.

Brenda Robbins of the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) announced they awarded \$800,000, of which \$500,000 is for Tucson, from Housing and Urban Development (HUD). CSPA was awarded \$2.5 million which has been three years in the works. Brenda also stated that housing subsidized by HUD had 215 vouchers for homeless clients and were currently full with a waiting list.

Co-Chair Trailor announced the AZ Housing Forum was taking place at the Talking Stick Resort with the keynote speaker from Utah, and the author of the book "Under the Bridge".

Donna Bleyle stated the Tucson Pima Coalition to End Homelessness (TPCH) is hosting their Annual Conference on September 30, 2011 with Keynote Speaker Ann Oliva, the Director of HUD's Office of Special Needs Assistance Program Office (SNAP).

Commissioner Williams stated the Arizona Behavioral Health Corporation (ABC) is currently working on the last grant for 60 individuals who are chronically homeless.

Future Agenda Items

None

Call to the Public

None

Adjourn

Co-Chair Trailor called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Spicker made the motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Newsom. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.